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Andrew Jackson to Andrew Jackson, Jr., April 20, 1834, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO ANDREW JACKSON, JR.

Washington, April 20, 1834.

My son, I have just received yours of the 7th instant, and rejoice that Sarah and the babe is doing well. I pray god for his blessing upon them, and for his kind protection of you all, and his guidence and protection thro life. I rejoice to hear that my dear little Rachel is still improving and doing well. kiss the dear little one for me.

I have recd. the weight of the last 37. Bales of cotton, and I sincerely regret my son that we are so much deceived in the amount of cotton. I fear that the proceeds of about 30,000 lbs. of cotton will after paying for the expence of the House and farm leave but little to be applied to the first instalment of the Land bo't of Mr. Hill, and should I be called hence I fear you would find but little favour from Mr. Hill, and the Hermitage with the premises purchased might be sold for the debt. therefore it has been why I have asked you to furnish me with a copy of the contract, the amount of the first instalment, and the amount of cotton raised and sent to markett, that I might know how much I would have to provide for. this has not been furnished me, and the probable amount of proceeds of cotton made out from your former statements and the letter of Col. Maunsel White, will be found to be much larger than will be realized and will leave a much larger amount of the first instalment over the avails of the cotton than was anticipated by me. I have sent to you, a check for mony to be deposited in the union Bank the first of may next, and judge Overtons note for \$500, with interest, in all, upwards of \$1400, which you must have recd. ere this. Now let me ask you again to send me a copy of your engagement with Hill, and as soon as you get

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the amount of sales from Col White and know the amount of expence of House and farm, give me the amount of the ballance that may be due on the first instalment to Hill. I can say no more at present, indeed am oppressed with business to day that must be attended to, and my dear Andrew, the looseness with which you have attended to this business, has occasioned me much trouble and writing, and I do hope it will be a lesson to you thro' life to do your business hereafter as you ought, that is to say, *promptly as it occurs and always in writing*.

I shall expect to hear from you often. I regret the loss of the oscar colt, the Stockholder is too old, I wish you had put her to Citizen, he is the best cross now in america, but you must learn to do your own business as your judgtment may suggest.

Salute my dear sarah, the daughter and son with a kiss.